

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 HA-05
SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /109 W
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R 242125Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6450
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, ELAB, PFOR, SF, CA
SUBJECT: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FIRMS OPERATING IN SOUTH
AFRICA

REF: OTTAWA 63

1. GOC HAS COMPLETED AND PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH A COPY
OF ITS "GUIDELINE PAPER" ON CODE OF CONDUCT CONCERNING
EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF CANADIAN COMPANIES OPERATING IN
SOUTH AFRICA, REFTEL. PAPER WAS DISTRIBUTED TO CANADIAN
FIRM OPERATING IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT HAS NOT BEEN MADE
PUBLIC.

2. GOC PAPER EXPRESSES HOPE "THAT EVERY CANADIAN
COMPANY ACTIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA WILL PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT
PRACTICES BASED ON PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL
ITS EMPLOYEES, AND WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH BASIC
HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENERAL ECONOMIC WELFARE OF ALL PEOPLE
IN SOUTH AFRICA." IT COMMENDS TO EMPLOYERS THE 1973
DECLARATION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNA-
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TIONAL ORGANIZATION OF EMPLOYERS.

3. GUIDELINES MAKE SUGGESTIONS ON GENERAL WORKING
CONDITIONS, RACE RELATIONS, FRINGE BENEFITS, COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING, WAGES AND TRAINING OF NON-WHITES.

4. GUIDELINES CONTAIN NO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS,

BUT STATE THAT GOC INTENDS TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY AND THAT CANADIAN COMPANIES OPERATING IN SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD MAKE ANNUAL PUBLIC REPORTS ON THEIR PROGRESS IN REALIZING OBJECTIVE OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT.

5. ACCORDING TO H.D. PEEL, EXTAFF DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT AND COMPETITION POLICY DIVISION, GOC PLANS TO GO NO FURTHER AT THIS TIME, BUT WILL AWAIT FIRMS' REACTION. PAPER WAS ONLY DISTRIBUTED WEEK AGO, AND THERE HAS BEEN NO REACTION YET, ACCORDING TO PEEL.

6. PEEL TOLD EMBOFF HE WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING WHAT FURTHER ACTION U.S. IS CONSIDERING, AND OUR CURRENT POSITION ON THE EC CODE. HE SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR CANADA TO ADOPT EC CODE BECAUSE OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS PROVISION WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

7. COPIES OF CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDELINES BEING FORWARDED DEPARTMENT, USUN, CAPETOWN AND PRETORIA BY AIRGRAM.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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